

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
and  
ENERGY COMMITTEE  
of the  
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
Minutes**

A regular meeting of the Economic Development, Higher Education & Energy Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on Wednesday, **December 1, 2004**.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator Lynne Nowick • Chairperson

Legislator Angie Carpenter • Vice•Chair

Legislator Brian Foley

Legislator Jon Cooper

Legislator Jay Schneiderman

Legislator Vilorio • Fisher

Legislator Peter O'Leary

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mea Knapp • Counsel to the Legislature

Joe Schroeder • Budget Review Office

Joe Muncey • Budget Review Office

Ilona Julius • Deputy Clerk of the Legislature

Ben Zwirn • County Executive's Office

Carolyn Fahey • Economic Development

Moke McGowan • LICVB

Gloria Rocchio • LICVB

Claudia Bruno • LICVB

Ed Hogan • Aide to Legislator Nowick

All other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Donna Catalano • Court Stenographer

**(\*THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:40 A.M.\*)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Moke McGowan.

### **SALUTATION**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Good morning, everybody, and welcome to Economic Development, Higher Education and Energy. We're going to start off this morning with a presentation by Moke McGowan, President of the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau. I see we have two cards here also from LICVB. Did you want to both come up at the same time? Okay. You want to do a separate presentations? Okay. Very good. Good morning, Mr. McGowan, how are you?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Good morning, Legislator Nowick and Legislators. Thank you for having me today. I'm delighted to be here this morning, and thank you for allowing us to opportunity to make the presentation. This being my second opportunity to address this committee •• the first was some 14 and a half, 15 weeks ago when I had first arrived in my position with the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau. I think at that time it was day two of my tenure.

At that time, if you will, I expressed a desire to move forward on a number of initiatives that would work to improve our communications process with the Legislature as a whole and certainly with this committee and likewise to work toward operating in a much more transparent fashion providing you with, if you will, a report card on our activities, our programs, our successes and also at times some of those endeavors where we fell a little bit short on.

I also outlined at that time the broad based objectives of the marketing plan I and my staff would be shortly working on, a marketing plan that would be a dramatic departure from previous marketing plans. For one, it would be more focused on the customer. And two, it would definitely be working to drive off-island overnight visitation to our Island's hotels. We would be providing greater efficiencies and accountability within this marketing plan by outlining quantitative as well as qualitative objectives. We would be working to strengthen our internet presence, our website capabilities, the ability to have transactional aspects utilizing the internet. And finally, also to create, if you will, a stronger imagine of Long Island as a leisure travel destination as well as a site for conventions and meeting as well as a site for sporting events here on the Long Island.

And further to that, I would be looking to work with both my Executive Committee and our Board of Directors in trying to strengthen both the financial oversights as well as business operations of the organization in order to be that much more transparent and that much more responsible. Well, in the 14 weeks since that meeting, we first point out that the Executive Committee

working with the Board of Directors on its own initiative absent, if you will, any mandates have put together a number of internal policies and procedures that both strengthens the financial controls of the organization as well as providing that business oversight that was desperately needed.

They have developed and put into place controls that now require dual signatures for any expenses, any checks, written over \$5000, dual signatures on my expense reports. These signatures are required of both the Chairman and the Treasurer. Both the Executive Committee and the Board must approve expenses exceeding \$5000. And on an annual basis we now have in place a requirement that we will review and put out to bid all of our vendor contracts. In addition to those aforementioned controls, the Executive Committee and Board of Directors likewise voted to completely dissolve the political action committee effective December 31 of this year.

We are now working to set up, effective of this month, a completely segregated and separate checking account for our membership dollars, our membership funds and those funds generated through direct membership activities so that there's no interchange or mixing of public dollars with private sector dollars from our membership. And finally, the Executive Committee agreed with my assessment and my direction that we would work to leverage the major events that take place on Long Island to create a greater awareness of the Long Island product and Long Island as a destination as opposed to the practice of underwriting, sponsoring or cosponsoring such events; everything from the U. S. Open to the Belmont Stakes and various other events that we have traditionally put dollars into that really did not work to drive business to the Island.

I must add to this that these are just a few of the policies and procedures and controls that have been put in place. While these are significant, all of the policies and procedures are dedicated to providing a greater oversight of the management practices as well as the fiscal responsibilities of the organization. Now, while all of this was taking place during these 14 weeks, I and my staff did sit down and within approximately eight weeks, we worked together to create what I believe

is going to be a very proactive and a very productive marketing plan, one that really reflects a whole different and new direction from previous plans of the past. Copies of this plan have been distributed amongst all Legislators as well as the County Executive, Commission Morgo and his staff likewise have received copies of the marketing plan and the budget to support it.

I would say that most notably this plan really distinguishes itself from the immediate past marketing philosophies in three primary areas. First, it does focus on driving off Island overnight visitation. If you will, it's focused as our partners the lodging industry say, putting heads in beds.

Second, its strategies are focused on the customer, not just in creating, if you will, a top of mind awareness of Long Island as a leisure travel destination, but actively selling the customer on choosing Long Island over our competitors and our competition in the surrounding Tri•State area as well as other competitors from around the world, across the nation. This aspect of creating a strong destination image and selling the leisure travel community does not and will not be at the expense of also selling Long Island, both Nassau and Suffolk County, as a site for conventions and meetings, as a site for sporting events, rather it will work to compliment those efforts.

And finally, the plan really seeks to provide, if you will, greater accountability. As I said earlier, what we have looked to do is provide quantitative goals and objectives. These are targets for success. These are targets that we will strive to achieve. It is possible we may fall short, but we will always be making progress. And in doing so, it's our intent to provide you with a greater detailed understanding of the return on the County's investment, not only in its tourism industry, but in this bureau, this organization, to be able to generate that business.

This carries forward in everything from the number of sales leads that we will be generating to

the number of general leisure travel inquiries, the number of folks requesting additional information, the number of unique visitors, not hits, but the unique visitors coming to our website, all aspects where it's appropriate, where it's applicable, we will be measure be and we will be providing you with baseline information to be able to show both the growth and the progress. In the weeks ahead, we will be developing and providing a detailed outline of our media strategies and plan. Actually, the strategies are provided in the marketing plan, and if you will, dollars have been set aside for media purchases. We are currently involved in the process of identifying all media buys that we purchase during the coming years. So you will have a detailed breakdown line by line of each media and medium as well as the time of year that that advertising will be purchased and will take place.

Once, of course, that's completed, we'll be more than happy to look forward to sharing with you either in committee or individually. Certainly, every Legislator will receive a copy of it. I wanted to keep my comments relatively short this morning. I could go through the marketing plan in detail, I don't think it's necessary. I think that the top of line primary aspects of the marketing plan have been laid out. And I'm sure this each one of you has more specific questions that are targeting various elements of that plan, and I would like to leave time to be able to answer those questions. I do have, I understand, a number of folks with me today who likewise may have comments that they would like to share.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you for that overview. And I did, by the way, get an opportunity to go over the plan, and I just •• I know that you touched on almost everything in there, and I just had one question that I remember from the plan. Did I see somewhere in there that you are going to try to receive grants? Did it say something about getting grants, and how would you do that?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

There are •• we currently do receive grants through the state, which is •• this coming year, it's the matching grants program, the matching funds program the state provides, and that will be approximately \$250,000 •• I'm sorry, \$221,000 in coming year. In years past, it's been about \$272,000. Second to that, we are planning on creating our own grants program as part of the Suffolk leisure •• part of the marketing plan that focuses on Suffolk County. That would be the dollar differential between the dollars collected •• hotel dollars collected by Suffolk County versus Nassau County. There's a difference of some two •• about \$300,000. And that \$300,000 is dedicated to creating awareness of Suffolk County as a destination and Suffolk County products. We have set aside in the marketing plan approximately \$50,000 to create a matching grants program to work with our partners, the destination marketing organizations ••

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Just back up. Matching grants, \$50,000 from the state and who matches it?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

No, I'm sorry. Of those dollars of our total budget.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Of the 221 grants or?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Of the total budget that •• it does get a little confusing, doesn't it? Two hundred and twenty one thousand dollars provided from the state in the matching grants program is a part of our overall operating marketing budget, which is approximately two million plus some change. We



specifically have created or have been directed, if you will, by the Legislature of Suffolk County to create a Suffolk County Awareness Program. The dollars to do that comes from, if you will, the difference between those dollars collected in Suffolk County, hotel tax wise, and those collected in Nassau County. Suffolk County collects approximately \$300,000 a year more than Nassau. So that \$300,000 we take and set aside and create an entirely new program or different program that targets Suffolk County specifically.

That includes advertising, promotions, that includes operating •• a part of the operational expenses of the Information Center along the LIE. And this year what I also did was set aside 50,000 of those dollars to create our own matching grant program to provide assistance to entities, non profit entities, in Suffolk County specifically to help them and ourselves leverage our dollars to create greater awareness of Suffolk County leisure products.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Just an example of a not•for•profit.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

You bet. An example would be the Hamptons Visitors Council, which is comprised of five chambers of commerce in the South Fork area. It also would include the North Fork Promotion Council. It may also include a performing or cultural arts organization that would like to extend the awareness of their programs using these \$50,000. And by the way, the criteria for who can receive and how it can be utilized is being set up through a task force comprised of members of various organizations so that we have controls in place for the expenditures. But it would be a 50/50 match, that is if they put up 5000, we put up five, thereby creating a \$10,000 opportunity.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you. Does anybody have any questions? Legislator Schneiderman.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Thank you for coming out this morning. On your marketing plan, I'm curious as to what extent you consulted with officials or people within the tourism industry in various locations in developing the marketing plan.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

It has •• we have in place a marketing committee that is comprised basically of anybody who wishes to be a part of the that committee. We ask for input, direct input, during the committee sessions. In addition to that, what I have done is met individually throughout the County with individuals of various organizations as much as I could during the 14 weeks and in line with being able to produce the marketing plan. I also very carefully went through past year's marketing plans and results. And I have to say that that was probably the number one thing that really helped me formulate the objectives and the plan itself. The input from our partners and non partners, because a number of folks that I talked to are not even involved in tourism directly or as members or what not, the involve Legislators, they involve mayors of communities as well as chambers of commerce, etcetera. All of their input went into assisting us, assisting me in better identifying our course of action, our direction and the needs in order to move business.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

In your budget, would you know off hand what percentage of your budget is being spent on

advertising?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Off hand on a percentage basis, I couldn't tell you. I would say that about \$300,000 is dedicated at this point to media buys, not production of the advertising itself.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Of the roughly \$2 million budget?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Yeah.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

And do you know what percentage or how much is being spent on administrative costs, salaries in administration?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Overall the administrative costs we try to keep to approximately 43%.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Thank you.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Let me add to that one quick thing. Normally a Convention and Visitors Bureau is not involved in the arena of sports events development. You not find that to be a standard of most conventions bureaus across that nation. It's relatively new. What we have in •• on Long Island and with the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau is a very proactive and progressive sports events development department which really consists of one sales director and a shared administrative assistant. That activity generates a tremendous amount of dollars to both counties. And believe me, we worked very diligently in bringing •• trying to bring sporting events to Suffolk County as well as Nassau County. And as such, that is a considerable significant part of our budget where you would normally not find it.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Do you know off hand •• well, you said it's roughly \$2 million budget; is that correct?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Yes.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

And salaries and benefits, do you know how much that adds up to?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

I can refer to that right now, if you'd like.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I think it's in the neighborhood of \$930,000, I believe.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

That's probably a fair assessment.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

And your rent is in the neighborhood of, I think, \$90,000?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Right.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

So that seems to be over a million dollars, so it must be more like 50% in administrative costs, not 43%. Maybe you can check that number and get back to us.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

I would be happy to.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Yeah, I believe the administrative costs are in excess of 50%.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

I think if we look at •• the 43%, if you will, is salaries and benefits, it does not include the rest of the administration expenses. You are right. I mean, it doesn't include rent, telephones, various other items.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Foley.

**LEG. FOLEY:**

Thank you, Madam Chair. Let me first thank Mr. McGowan. As with the rest of us, he had attended •• he had come by my office, and we had a good talk about the bureau and also carry through on a conversation we had at an early committee meeting about the promise of utilizing the convention bureau's means to help a County•wide policy of trying to revitalize the

downtowns, and I'm happy to see that you're putting that together. I want to ask you somewhat of a different question. The Comptroller of the County had identified a whole host of what he considered weaknesses within •• within the bureau. Can you tell us today that what you have presented to us and what you have proposed goes the full distance of addressing those weaknesses, or are there still some outstanding issues that the bureau has with the Comptroller as to what he had identified as were problems with the bureau? If you can just inform the committee about that, please.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Myself and our Chairman of our board, Gloria Rocchio, had an exceptionally good meeting with Mr. Sawicki yesterday afternoon, both very informative •• it was a very comfortable meeting where not only did we address a number of things, but we engaged in conversations as to things that he was looking at and the questions that he •• that were natural yellow flags. I think that we came away from that meeting with a stronger respect for each other, the organization and what not only the Executive Committee and the board has done thus far, but also in opening up the communication process so that we can avoid some of these problems in the future as well.

I think that •• and I certainly welcome anyone to speak with Mr. Sawicki personally about that meeting. I came away feeling very good about it. It was our first opportunity to literally sit down with the County Comptroller and discuss certain questions and issues that were raised, and also to let him know what we have done since his •• since the audit came out and what we likewise need to keep eye on in the future. We shared with him, if you will, that his audit was a good wake up call for the organization, that there were areas that really pointed out a need for our board to be much more actively engaged in the oversight of the day•to•day operational details, not that they need to micromanage, but to be aware and be engaged in that.

And I don't want to put words in my Chairman's mouth, but I would •• I would suspect that she came away with that same strong sense. I think we will be working likewise to develop a

working relationship, understanding the nature of his position and his responsibilities as well as what we would be working with him on.

**LEG. FOLEY:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Carpenter.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Mr. McGowan, it's nice to see you here this morning. And I appreciate your candor and am delighted to hear that you did have an opportunity to sit down with the Comptroller and the fact that you recognized that audit as a wake up call to the agency. And I think that's, again, very important and gracious of you to share that.

We have a number of resolutions before us on the agenda today that concern the LICVB. And you have stated that a number of things have been put into place; dual signatures on expenditures over 5000 and so forth. I think it will be important, and some of the things that are being suggested in these resolutions are things that you are already doing, if you could give us, you know, a list of what you have done. I know that there's been reference to some correspondence and there have been conversations, and, of course, your testimony this morning, but I think it would be important for us to have, you know, that list of what to date you have implemented and plan on, you know, keeping in place for the future.



**MR. MCGOWAN:**

We'd be more than happy to provide that.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Thank you.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Legislator Carpenter, may I also add that, you know, I think the wake up call was one that was recognized, not by myself, I'm merely sharing with you, I think, the feelings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, obviously I came at the tail end of that, so it's their cognizance. I certainly recognize having been involved in this industry for 30 years, both in the public and private sector, the need for operating a more transparent communicative fashion, and I think it was they would readily admit their own wake up call.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

And as has been stated here in the past, certainly I'm not condoning it, but it's understandable to a certain degree people who serve on various boards and commissions across this island and across the nation for that matter are volunteers. You know, they're trying to give of their time for what they feel is a worthwhile cause, and sometimes it's easy to just kind of, you know, come to meetings and just relegate, you know, someone tells you everything is taken care of, and you know, you just go along your merry little way, and again, as you said, it is a wake up call and any of the conversations I have had with people who are on the board are very, very committed and want to make sure that everything is done in a transparent and appropriate manner.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Schneiderman.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

You have been charged with the handling of some \$1.7 million in taxpayer funds collected between the two counties of Nassau and Suffolk County. What I'd like •• my first question is to ask you to explain really how you go about determining who is on the Board of Directors and how your Executive Committee is established.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

It is established in your bi•laws as to how the board is selected and how, likewise, the Executive Committee is selected by the board. We have a series of •• in fact, we're actually on our bi•laws. We were at a bi•laws meeting last night. The Board of Directors, of which there are 39, approximately 32 of them come from our membership; that is the membership through the nominating committee nominates individuals for consideration and service at the annual meeting. That is basically voted upon. Now, our board can serve three terms of three consecutive years; that is to say, they could serve on the board for nine years. But at each three year period, they are •• they must be reelected to the board. The board likewise selects the Executive Committee, which is comprised of four officers. Those officers are the Chairman, the vice•Chair, the Treasurer and the Secretary. And that takes place every other year. They serve for two year periods.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

So again, the board is chosen through an election process of members?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

By the members, yes.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Okay. That really leads me into my second question, which deals with the issue of membership versus non membership. You are in essence a membership organization. You have, I believe, roughly 500 or so members, yet the funds •• most •• there are some of your funds •• I don't recall the amount, may be \$100,000 comes from membership fees, the bulk of the money, 1.7 or so million, comes from hotel taxes, which are collected by some members and some non members.

One of the bills that I have before this committee deals with the comingling issue of keeping those funds separate. I would ask you have you taken any steps to keep these funds separated? Because I know in the past, you have merged these funds and some of the things that LICVB has put forth in advertising can contain listings only of the members, although they were paid for by the hotel taxes in general. So what have you done to correct that situation?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

Let me share with you the discussions that we had with Comptroller Sawicki yesterday, because this was a topic right off the bat. When I came ob board, first I was mandated by the internal controls or the policy procedures that our Executive Committee put in place; that we would segregate out the membership dollars, the dues that are generated, as well as any dollars of funds that are created or generated through cooperative programming with the members; that is to say if we created a ad where we spent 50% on that and our members put 50% into the ad,

those 50% of their dollars would be considered to me membership dollars. Those dollars would be segregated out. Internally, that has been segregated out. I was lead to believe by my financial officer when I first came on board that they had been segregated out. And in deed they had, only from an internal accounting standpoint.

Effective •• actually today is Wednesday, December 1, effective this morning, we are literally going to the bank and creating a separate checking account where only membership dollars will be deposited, only member dollars will be written against that, so money in, money out. But I did advise the Comptroller that in order to set up that account, at this point it would be necessary for us to take \$500 from the overall operating fund, which certainly would include public dollars, to set the account up only until the membership dollars come in. Once we have \$500 worth of membership funds, we separate the 500 that we borrowed to set up the account, and from that point forward, there are no longer a comingling of public•private dollars.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

But the board members themselves still will be the only members who can serve on the Board of Directors; is that correct?

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

As I said, we have actually 39 board members, 32 of which are selected by the membership, and the balance of those members are selected •• are ex officio members; one each from the County Executives of Nassau and Suffolk County, and one from four different organization that are intimately tied to the tourism industry; that is the President of lodging •• Long Island Lodging Association, the President of the Restaurant Association, etcetera. So, yes, at that particular point, we are a 501 C3 non profit business association, and our board is selected in compliance with federal laws governing that.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Okay. Are there any other questions? Just let me take an opportunity to say thank you for coming and making your presentation. And I know I for one as a Legislator here feel that the LICVB is certainly going in the right direction. I do know how hard you have been working. I know that you have put your heart and soul into it, and I think it shows. And we as a Legislature do appreciate that, and we do appreciate the accountability. And I see a lot of changes being made, and I think it's going to be very fortunate for your organization to have you at the helm.

**MR. MCGOWAN:**

I appreciate your comments.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you. We have two cards, and it's •• it seems to be all on the same subject. Gloria Rocchio. Did you want to come up with Claudia Bruno?

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

Yes.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Good morning, Gloria.

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

Good morning, Madam Chairman, members of the committee. It's good to see you all together. I'd just like to, at the end of this, reiterate about the meeting with Mr. Sawicki, it was an excellent, excellent meeting. The issue we have been dealing with over the past several months centers on how tax dollars are used to enhance Long Island's economy through tourism. First, it must be understood that the tax dollars in question are not derived through the usual means. The taxes are levied visitors, tourists who utilize our hotels and motels. These funds are raised through room tax that came about through the suggestion of the Long Island hoteliers.

The bureau, both counties receive a substantial amount of money each year. That being said, it is essential that the LICVB Board and staff functions as stewards and cooperate with both counties to accomplish the goals set out in our mission statement. It's our charge to promote tourism throughout Long Island, to use the funds raised through the room tax and membership dues, to attract visitors for recreation and business purposes.

Recent developments have cast a shadow of distrust over the bureau. Allegations have been exaggerated and blown out of proportion to the extent that we are in danger of throwing out the baby with the wash water. Let me assure you, LICVB is in good hands. Our volunteer Board of Directors and our new president have taken hold of the situation and set it back on course.

All I ask of you is to give us some more time to prove ourselves. In just five months, we have accomplished a lot. We are all very active parts participants in the tourism industry of Long Island. We have a lot to lose if we fail and a lot to gain if we succeed, all of us. May I ask all of the LICVB board members who are here today to stand and introduce themselves and tell their affiliation.

I'd also like to say, since we saw these resolutions that are been proposed today, the public hearing, we have not had a board meeting, so we have not taken a position on them. But I personally would like to support Legislator Carpenter's resolution 2095. The board members that stand, I would ask them to give us their opinion as well. Please, would you stand. You want to start with you, Michael?

**MR. EGAN:**

Sure. Good morning. Good morning. Thank you. My name is Mike Egan. I am the owner of South Bay Paddle Wheel Cruises. I am located down in Bay Shore. I've been a board member since 1998. And I serve on the bi•laws committee, tour and travel committee, and one other one •• oh, government affairs committee. I am the co•chair with Mike Johnston from Nassau County. Thank you. I am not on the Executive Board?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

You're not on the Executive Board?

**MR. EGAN:**

No. And I do support Legislator Carpenter's proposed resolution 2095. Thank you.

**MR. GREENSTEIN:**

Good morning. Martin Greenstein, CEO of the (Venprose) Group, member of the Board of Directors now for about six years. I chair the networking committee, serve on tower and travel and several other committees, and I do support Legislator Carpenter's bill as I think it's going to

help. I might add that the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau does represent all of Long Island. And most of the dollars and people that come to Long Island do focus to Suffolk because there's so much more in Suffolk; Montauk and all the other areas out east that do draw people. Two years ago, the bureau a fishing tournament, an international tournament, to Montauk, and we're proud of those kinds of things. And we do hope that you'll work along with us as we improve the way we do business and the way we support Long Island. Thank you.

**MR. SIGNOLFI:**

I'm Bob Signolfi, I'm the General manager of Hilton, Long Island. I've been on the Board of Directors, I'm not sure how long. I'm on the Executive Committee, and I am also the secretary of the organization. I donate a lot of my time to make sure the Long Island Visitors Convention Bureau is productive for Long Island and my hotel. And I thank you.

**MR. GEROFOLLO:**

Good morning. My name is Joe Gerofolo. My company is Island Publications. We were recently acquired by Newsday back in April and are a wholly owned subsidiary of them. I've been a board member since 1995, I believe, and actually am finishing with my third three year term with the organization. I'm also •• this year, I've been on the Executive Committee and will no longer be serving once my term expires. I also want to say I support Legislator Carpenter's resolution there of 2095. Thank you.

**MS. HANES:**

Good morning. My name is Gail Hanes. I have been been a member of the Board of Directors for the past six years, just starting my third term. I have a company called Long Island Lighthouse Safaris and actually got involved with the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau when I was President of the Fire Island Lighthouse Preservation Society. I thank the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau for helping me when I was President at the Fire and Lighthouse



(sic) Preservation Society and today where I'm still as active as •• almost as much as I was then with the society.

I do support Angie's •• Legislator Carpenter's proposal. And I'm very happy to tell you all that I did receive a phone call over the Thanksgiving vacation with respect to bringing in more tours from the international market, specifically Canada and Europe. I'm very excited about that, and that was a result of help that I got from the Convention and Visitors Bureau in bringing the first I love New York Fishing Tournament, which Maury mentioned just a few minutes ago. That tournament did come back again last year, unfortunately for us, I guess, the Brits one, but we won the first ones, and they're coming back. And that's good news for Montauk and the East End. So thank you very much for listening.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you.

**MS. GALLAGHER:**

Good morning. My name is Patty Gallagher, and I'm the General manager at the Westhampton Bath and Tennis Hotel and Marina. And I've been serving on the board for approximately one year. And I do also support Legislator Carpenter's bill. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you. Gloria, you've used up your three minutes, her three minutes, and her three minutes.

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

I just want to tell you, as you can see, we have a good cross section of representation on the board, and this is just a few of them. In time, we will •• you'll meet all of them. So thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Vilorio•Fisher has question.

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

Yes, Legislator Fisher.

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

Good morning. Thank you for coming here through all this rain. I have two questions, Gloria. Number one, there are 39 board members. We have always considered that a rather unwieldy number, it's so large. Your meetings had been more •• had been sporadic for a while. They've become more regular; is that correct?

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

Not to my knowledge. We've always had five board meeting a year, the sixth is our annual meeting always.

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

And how is the attendance?

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

It's in our bi•laws. We have always had a quorum. I can tell you that I serve as a commissioner on another board that is appointed by government, and we get e•mails or calls to beg us to come, because they can never make a quorum. These people are on board because they want to be there, they're hands•on, and it's industry driven. It's very good.

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

That's good to hear. By the way, I do want to congratulate the board on bringing Mr. McGowan here to Suffolk County, because he •• as you have heard from other Legislators, he did visit our offices. We had a very informative discussion in my office, and it was a good exchange of ideas. And it was certainly pleasure to have that time to discuss issues with him in a very candid and forthright manner.

My second question has to do with 2095. The board members who have come forward, several of them, including yourself, have supported that. And I had a question regarding the first resolved, which is meat of the legislation, which is a measure of the success of the programs that are undertaken by the LICVB. And do you have, as a supporter of the resolution, a concept of how these •• how we will quantify the success, how do you see that occurring?

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

I think we will be able to do that. First of all, we'll be able to tell you what leads have been

converted into definite conventions on Long Island. We are putting into place next year a website concept that will definitely tell a person whether or not they got business from LICVB. And that will be a measure of results. Yes, I think there's other things we can do as well. Yes.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Is that website concept part of a larger web program?

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

Yes, it is.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

But that phase of it will be ready to go on ••

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

Not right away. We haven't been able to have a meeting on it even because of all these other meetings.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Okay. But my question is how ••

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

Next year it will be.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Next year. Okay. So then by the time the resolution takes place, though, that concept won't be in operation yet with that website.

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

No. Not right away. I would say by the end of year, you would be able to measure results on that website.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Okay. Thank you, Gloria.

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Gloria, thank you.

**MS. ROCCHIO:**

And can Claudia say a few words?

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Okay. Sure.

**MS. BRUNO:**

Claudia Bruno, I'm the Executive Director of the New York State Restaurant Association. We have 2000 members state wide, we have about close to 600 in Nassau and Suffolk county. I've been a member for about three years of the board. I just want to say that as a board member, I feel that this board is very dedicated, and the major concern is the prosperity of Long Island and to keep the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau as an industry ridden organization.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

That was short. Thank you.

**MS. BRUNO:**

And I support Resolution 2095.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you. Gloria, to what you had said in your presentation, to give the LICVB a chance. I do agree. This is a whole new organization now. And we have all working together, and that says something. So thank you. Okay. That completes our cards. We are going now to have a public hearing on 2038.

**MR. QUINN:**

I had not filled out a card since I arrived late. I had some comments, if a may.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Yes, you may.

**MR. QUINN:**

My name is Peter Quinn, energy analysis, Long Island Coalition for Democracy. I see that Joe Schroeder is here, who is involved with energy issues with the County. He may or may not have addressed you about LIPA's proposed four options for change, but I had spoken with Legislator Nowick and Carpenter's offices, with their aides about what seems to be falling under the radar screen.

LIPA has proposed four option; privatization, buying the generating plants from KeySpan, keeping the system as is and a call for municipalization. The first option, privatization, means going back six and a half years to LILCO where you have stock holders, dividends and the potential for the private entrepreneur to go before the Public Service Commission and get guaranteed rates of return generally in the range of 12 to 15% and some investor owned utilities can actually get more.

I don't think •• when you consider that that private company has not yet been named, that the potential exists for billions of dollars of borrowing, which will ultimately be heaped upon ratepayers, it seems to me that it's something that this Legislature, even though you may not have jurisdiction or control over LIPA, you certainly have the capacity to speak up and present your sentiments. The question of buying the generating plants from LIPA is absurd on its face. The LIPA •• pardon me, KeySpan obtained the generating plans, over 50 of them, during the first takeover. Now •• and they brought them as book value.

You may recall a couple of years ago, LIPA tried to buy them back and insisted they had to buy all of them, even though many are inefficient and polluting, for market value. \\_Irving Like\\_ says that the difference between book value and market value on those generating plants can be as much \$550 million, which would be hoisted on all ratepayers across the Long Island, that means the business community, the governments and the residential consumers. I think that issue is out of the question.

Keeping LIPA as is to me also is absurd. They have done very little in terms of renewable energy, and yet they're spending \$35 million a year, and they are spending over \$1 billion a year on fossil fuels and purchased power. That in equity itself says to me that we are not moving away from oil and natural gas, but rather going along with the national program of the utilities to continue a process of using fossil fuels.

The fourth proposal of municipalization is public power. It enables the Long Island community to say we want local control ••

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Mr. Quinn, you have to sum up.



**MR. QUINN:**

•• rather than having judgements by the Governor's Office in Albany or by Wall Street. I would urge this committee along with the full Legislature and the County Executive with whom I have spoken, to seize the moment and seek municipalization. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you. Mr. Quinn and for everybody else's information, just so you know, at the next meeting of Economic Development, December 15th, I have asked Mr. Kessel to attend, and he promises to be here and give us update of where LIPA is at and where we are going.

**MR. QUINN:**

And one final comment. LIPA plans •• they have a committee already formed, they are reviewing their options, they intend to accept the recommendation of that committee at the end of December, and the trustees are supposed to adopt their position •• a position in January. So there's very little time for you to consider it.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you. Okay. Public hearing. Unless there is anybody here that wants to speak, is Mr. Morgo here today? Did he want to address? Carolyn, did you have anything to tell us? Is Jim here?

**MS. FAHEY:**

No. Carolina Fahey with Economic Development. The Commissioner wanted me to give you his regrets for not being here today to address anything in regards to the resolutions on the agenda or anything else. I can hopefully answer those questions for you.

He is in Washington with a delegation from Long Island at the request of Congressman Bishop to discuss retaining the 106 Rescue Wing at Gabreski Airport as part of the \\_brac\\_ process. So he is meeting with Pentagon representatives, representatives from the Air Force and the Air National Guard in hopes to state our case to keep the 106 here in Suffolk County. So he sends his regrets.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

So what you're saying is he thought the Pentagon maybe was more important than us.

**MS. FAHEY:**

No comment.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you. Is there anybody else here? From the college? Mr. Zwirn, you are getting up. You have something? Good morning, Mr. Zwirn.

**MR. ZWIRN:**

Good morning, Legislator Nowick. There are a number of bills before the Long Island •• on the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau. The County Executive has stated since there's a new head of that bureau, he'd like to give them a chance to try to get things in order. And it's hopeful. As they've stated publically, they're in favor of a regional approach and everything can be tweaked. There are a number of bills that are before the Legislature today. I think with respect to Legislator Caracciolo's bill, a lot of the things have already been done by the •• by the board. They've already stated that the comingling of funds has ended. They've had meetings with the Comptroller. They wanted dual signatures. And I think he also asked for contractual oversight as well, which can be done on a very •• without a great deal of changing the way things are done now.

So there's really nothing that's objectionable. But again, a lot of things have already done and undertaken by the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau.

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

Madam Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Viloria•Fisher.

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

Ben, I agree with you. As I said, I had a long conversation with Mr. McGowan, and we do have our Comptroller who has looked at this, we have had certainly very close scrutiny. And I think that we should be able to give them a little bit of leeway in, you know, clearing up the issues that

are before them. I also sit on the Ways and Means Committee. And there was legislation there that was tabled, which was looking for a lawsuit to recoup any expenditures, but I think until the dust has settled, I think that that was also premature.

**MR. ZWIRN:**

County Executive's Office would agree as well.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Okay. Thank you. Mr. Zwirn, is that it?

**MR. ZWIRN:**

Yes.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Okay.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

**2038. Adopting Local Law No •• 2004, a Local Law to require greater oversight of the designated Tourism Promotion Agency administering the Hotel/Motel Taz Program. (CARACCILO).**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Was this advertised?

**MS. JULIUS:**

Yes, Madam Chair. They were duly advertised and in proper order.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Is there anybody hear wishing to address the committee?

**LEG. O'LEARY:**

Motion to close.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

I make a motion to close, seconded by Legislator Cooper. All in favor? Opposed?

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Schneiderman is recusing himself.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Let me just explain for the record. As I've disclosed to the Legislature before, I have a minority interest out a small hotel out in Montauk •• a small hotel. And I have gone to the Ethics Commission and am expecting a final determination from the Ethics Commission on December 6th, and that will determine whether I can or cannot vote on these matters. And the bills that I have before, I will also move to table, because they also require public hearings, but we will get to that in a moment.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion to close 2038 is approved. All in favor? Opposed? This is **closed**.

**Tabled resolution**

**1875. Appointing M. Cecile Forte, PhD, to the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees. (CARACAPPA)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion to table by myself, seconded by Legislator Vilorio•Fisher. All in favor? Opposed? 1875 is **tabled. (VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

**1878. Appointing Mary Ann Neil to the Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees. (LINDSAY)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion to table by Legislator Foley, seconded by Legislator O'Leary. All in favor? Opposed?  
1878 is **tabled. (VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

1971 has been withdrawn.

**1975. Adopting Local Law No •• 2004, a Charter Law to streamline County Government by abolishing the Airport Lease Screening Committee. (COUNTY EXEC)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Was the public hearing held on this one?

**MS. JULIUS:**

Yes.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion to table by Legislator Foley, seconded by Legislator Carpenter. All in favor? Opposed?  
1975 has been **tabled. (VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

## **INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS**

**1991. Approving the appointment of Mitchell Kreigman as a member of the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission. (COUNTY EXEC)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Is he here?

**MR. ZWIRN:**

Yes.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Would you like to come up? Good morning, sir. Would you like to tell us a little bit about yourself?

**MR. KRIEGMAN:**

Sure. I'm a writer, producer, creator of TV shows for little kids and families, like, Bear in the Big Blue House, if you know that, and a new version of Winnie the Pooh, Clarissa Explains it All, years ago and Elmo in Grouchland. And I've been in the City, New York City, working, producing these shows for Disney, Nickelodean, Sesame Street, PBS for about, I guess, about 20 years. And I moved to Water Mill fulltime with my three kids as of about a year and a half, and I'm taking over the LTV stage, the two empty spaces at LTV in East Hampton by the airport.



And I have a new series I'm doing with a dancing sloth that is going to be produced there for PBS Kids. And so anyway I'm pretty invested in the business of TV and film and making it work out here considering I've moved my entire business out here, and I think there's a great future in it.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

As they say in My Cousin Vinny, what is a sloth?

**LEG. O'LEARY:**

Shrek.

**MR. KRIEGMAN:**

Shrek is not a sloth. Shrek is a shrek, he's a monster.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

No. He's an ogre.

**MR. KRIEGMAN:**

An ogre is not as sort of preschool friendly. Sloths are more •• a dancing sloth is a little more

friendly.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Schneiderman.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Mitchell, first, a couple of thank yous. First, I want to thank you for move your business out into my district, I think that's wonderful. It's great to have you. And I also want to thank you for making yourself available to serve on this committee, because, you know, you obviously have great expertise. The last thing I want to say is that not only do I love your shows, but my kids obviously love your shows, particularly the Bear in the Big Blue House.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Okay. 1991. I'll make a motion, seconded by Legislator Foley. All in favor? Opposed? 1991 has been **approved. (VOTE:7•0•0•0).**

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

Please don't use anybody behind the horseshoe as a model.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Just so you know, this goes to full Legislature on Tuesday.

**MR. KRIEGMAN:**

Thank you very much.

**2037. Approving the appointment of Clare Bisceglia as a member of the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission. (COUNTY EXEC).**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Is Clare here?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

She has been here before earlier in the year. I'd like to make the motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion by Legislator Schneiderman, seconded by Legislator Vilorio•Fisher. All in favor?  
Opposed? **Approved. (VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

**2038. Adopting Local Law No •• 2004, a Local Law to require greater oversight of the designated Tourism Promotion Agency administering the Hotel/Motel Tax Program. (CARACCILO).**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

2038 has to be tabled for a public hearing to be held on December 1st at 9:30 a.m.

**MS. JULIUS:**

We had the public hearing, we closed it.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

I'm sorry. I'm sorry. It's the wrong one. You are right. Now, we don't have to table anymore for a public hearing, right? It just goes automatically to public hearing?

**MS. JULIUS:**

Now you can vote it out of the committee.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Motion to table.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion to table by Legislator Viloria•Fisher, seconded by myself. 2141 is tabled for a public hearing to be held on December 7th.

**LEG. FOLEY:**

Madam Chair, with 2038, with the public hearing being closed for 2038, we have to take some kind of action, whether tabling or approval or discharge.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Okay. 2038, do I have a motion?

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

Motion to table.

**LEG. COOPER:**

Second the motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Okay. 2038 is **tabled. (VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

**2041. Adopting Local Law No •• 2004, a Local Law to promote accountability of Hotel/Motel Tax Funds. (SCHNEIDERMAN)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion to table, seconded by myself. Public hearing on December 12th. **Tabled. (VOTE:7•0•0•0).**

**2095. To provide oversight of the activities of the Long Island Convention and Visitors Bureau. (CARPENTER)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion by Legislator ••

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

•• Carpenter.

**LEG. FOLEY:**

Second.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

On the motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Seconded by Legislator Foley.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

I appreciate the comments about wanting to table most of these resolutions. And I did want to explain on this particular resolution, it basically was an outgrowth of discussion that the Commissioner of Economic Development had before this committee where he said that he, you know, would like to come here to give a report and basically that was the genesis for this. And I just felt that it made good sense, and it was something that we should memorialize via resolution so that if anything ever changed that that would be an ongoing practice for this agency or any successor agency that they come before the appropriate committee.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

On the motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you, Legislator Carpenter. Legislator Schneiderman.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Again, since I'm waiting for December 6th for the ruling from the Ethics Commission, and, you know, would like if it turns out that I can participate to be able to participate and vote on this resolution, I would ask that we table it with the others to that point.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

Just abstain.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I'm just asking for it to be tabled for two weeks, because we'll have another opportunity in two weeks to revisit it.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

I really •• one has nothing to do with the other. This is basically memorializing what the Commissioner stated on the record in the committee that he would come to make a report. And it really is generic, it is not necessarily specific to the LICVB, but to any tourism agency. You are going to have your ruling on the 6th. Let's vote this out. And hopefully you'll be able to vote on it on the 7th, and if you can't, you know, we can understand that, and we can consider tabling on the floor if it's that important to you to vote on it. But I would like to move it today.



**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

2095 actually is what we all want anyway, we're just memorializing it.

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I just wanted the opportunity to vote on it.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Is there still a motion on the table, or do you want to withdraw that?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Whatever. I'll •• it doesn't matter.

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

If I could just respond. You said you were going to have a ruling on the 6th, we are meeting on the 7th. So if need be and, you know, you can vote on it, you'll be able to vote on it on the 7th. If the ruling says you can't vote on it, you can't vote on it anyway. So let's just discharge it today, and hopefully we can have action on the 7th.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

So did you withdraw your tabling motion?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

I'll withdraw the motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Tabling motion has been withdrawn. There's still a motion to approve, a second by Legislator Foley. All in favor? Opposed?

**LEG. SCHNEIDERMAN:**

Again, I'll have to recuse myself from the vote.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Schneiderman has recused himself. **APPROVED. (VOTE:6•0•1•0).**

**(Abstention; Legis. Schneiderman)**

**2096. Appointing Richard Kruse as a member of the Suffolk County Industrial Development Agency (IDA). (BINDER)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Is he here? Would you like to come up and talk to us?

**MR. KRUSE:**

Good morning, everyone. My name is Rich Kruse, and I am the president \\_Execu•Leaders\\_ , a not•for•profit business trade association, 501 C•6, and our mission is to help the business community get more business opportunities, to help them get more business here all over Long Island. I am also one of the founders, cofounders, six people who started LISTNET, I think most of you are aware of that. We started that approximately seven years ago, Long Island Software and Technology Network. We grew that to over a thousand companies here on Long Island and helped make Long Island one the tech centers of the United States.

And my mission now with the IDA will be to help promote the IDA and economic development on Long Island even more than what it is now, put a nice new face on it so we can get new business and get a lot more companies to stay here and maybe some new companies here.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you. Does anybody have any questions?

**LEG. O'LEARY:**

Yes, I have a question.

**LEG. O'LEARY:**

Are you a resident of Suffolk County?

**MR. KRUSE:**

Yes, I live in Deer Park since I'm 15.

**LEG. O'LEARY:**

Glad to hear that.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Any other questions? Thank you, Mr. Kruse. Oh, I'm sorry, Legislator Vilorina•Fisher.

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

This isn't a specific question to you, I just want to educate myself.

What is a 501 ••

**MR. KRUSE:**

C•6?

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

C•6.

**MR. KRUSE:**

It's a business trade •• not•for•profit business trade association. It's like the HIA, LISTNET or HIA, LIA.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Okay. Thank you. And thank you very much for putting more time into bringing business to Long Island and growing our economic engines. Thank you.

**MR. KRUSE:**

My pleasure. Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Okay. So motion by Legislator Foley, seconded by Legislator Carpenter. All in favor? Opposed?  
2096 is **approved. (VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

**2097. Appointing William Sanok as a member of the Suffolk County Vocational,**

**Education and Extension Board. (CARACCIOLO)****CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Mr. Sanok, are you hear? Come on up? Mr. Kruse, just so you know, you really don't have to come to the full meeting on Tuesday, unless, of course, you want to sit around for five hours, eight hours, maybe ten. Okay. Thank you. Good morning, sir. How are you?

**MR. SANOK:**

Good morning. I'm pleased to be here again. I think most of you know, I knew most of you, I've served for 35 years as Cooperative Extension agent, agricultural program director, and I had quite a bit of interaction with many of you. I've also been a member of the Riverhead Fire Department for 36 years. And irony of it is, I guess, in politics you call turn about is fair play, for that 30 years that I was program director, I used to make recommendations to the VEEB, Vocational Education Extension Board, as part of the Cooperative Extension, because by law, you have to have representation from agriculture. So I was writing letters of recommendation to Robbie \\_Heartmand\\_ and before Robbie \\_Heartmand\\_ , Ray \\_Keoski\\_ . This past spring, Ray asked me to replace him on the board. He would like to get off, so I agreed to accept the recommendation for a member of this committee.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Thank you very much for accepting that. And does anybody have any questions?

**LEG. CARPENTER:**

I would, if I could, just make a comment. To thank you for your years of dedicated serve,

especially as a volunteer fireman. It's really remarkable. Thank you.

**MR. SANOK:**

It's a very satisfying position.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

You didn't get enough, now you're going to volunteer again.

**LEG. VILORIA•FISHER:**

Motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion by Legislator Viloría•Fisher, seconded by Legislator Cooper. All in favor? Opposed?

**APPROVED. (VOTE:7•0•0•0).**

Also, you do not have to come on Tuesday.

**2103. Adopting Local Law No •• 2004, A Local Law regulating expenditure of Suffolk hotel and motel tax revenues. (SCHNEIDERMAN)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Needs to be tabled for a public hearing. Motion to table by Legislator Foley, seconded by Legislator O'Leary. All those in favor? Opposed? 2103 is **TABLED** for a public hearing on December 7th. **(VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

**2104. Adopting Local Law No •• 2004, A Local Law to ensure that Suffolk County hotel/motel tax funds benefit Suffolk's tourism. (SCHNEIDERMAN)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

This also has to be tabled. Motion by Legislator Foley, seconded by Legislator O'Leary. 2104 has been **tabled** for a public hearing to be held on December 7th. **(VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

**SENSE RESOLUTIONS**

**S•76[.|.|.] Sense of the Legislature resolution that New York State Legislature exempt solar power producing equipment from all sales taxes. (CARPENTER)**

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion by Legislator Carpenter, second by Legislator Cooper. All in favor? Opposed? **Approved. (VOTE:7•0•0•0)**

**S•80. Memorializing resolution requesting State of New York to amend the alcohol**



**beverage control law as it relates to advertising and marketing. (CARACAPPA)**

**LEG. COOPER:**

Explanation.

**LEG. FOLEY:**

I'll make a motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion by Legislator Foley, seconded by myself. Can you give me an explanation, please, Counsel?

**MS. KNAPP:**

This is Presiding Officer Caracappa's resolution. It arose out of a request from Suffolk Community College. Apparently, on Suffolk Community College, particularly in the Selden Campus, local bars and nightclubs not only put fliers on the cars, which litters the parking lot, even though we have prohibitions against that, they actually go into the hallways and try to solicit the college students to come to these bars and nightclubs.

So this resolution, sense resolution, requests that the State Legislature amend the alcohol beverage control law to allow for a suspension or even a revocation of a liquor license if an establishment whose distribution, display or positing of material has caused the Community

College to incur cost of cleaning up litter.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

I have a question.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Legislator Viloria • Fisher.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

I've seen this Sense Resolution introduced several times before. Now, has there been •• is there a Bill currently on the state level?

**MS. KNAPP:**

Not to my knowledge, there's not a bill that I'm aware of.

**LEG. VILORIA • FISHER:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

All in favor? Opposed? Sense 80 has been **approved. (VOTE:7•0•0•0).**

If there is nothing else, motion to close the meeting.

**LEG. FOLEY:**

Motion.

**CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:**

Motion by Legislator Foley, seconded by Legislator O'Leary. All those in favor? This meeting is closed.

**(\* THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:50 A.M. \*)**

\\_ \\_ **DENOTES BEING SPELLED PHONETICALLY**